



**para el mundo - pour le monde - for the World - para o mundo - per il mondo**

The arrival of the Brothers in Spain in 1909, provoked by the French exile and the imperious desire to increase the number of Brothers, meant for the Institute a process of transformation from the French model. A more urban and education-focused model was born, especially after the Civil War, which would mark the identity and character of the Province. The Houses of Formation (La Horra, Sotillo de la Ribera, La Aguilera, Sigüenza and Valladolid) were real centers of vocations.

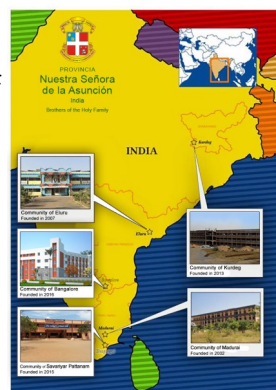
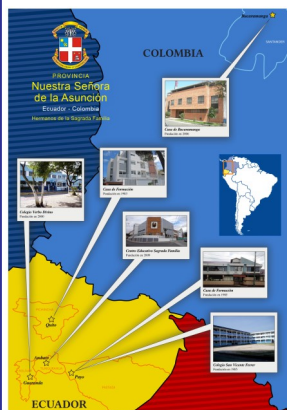
## Province of Our Lady of the Assumption



The first Brothers were destined to meet the demand in Uruguay and Argentina. Soon, the first Communities began to be created in Spanish territory, and with them, the gradual growth of their educational mission, above all, thanks to the abundance of vocations in Spain and the educational needs of a country under construction, in the post-War period, and then, under the dictatorship of Franco. The Communities grew according to the needs of the Schools. A good religious and professional formation, a way of life that took care of religious observance, uniformity of style and generosity in work were elements with which the Province "Nuestra Señora de la Asunción" (Our Lady of the Assumption) was built.

The post-Conciliar period, with the decline of vocations and the abandonment of many religious, together with the increased search for a deeper meaning of religious life, gave way to a revaluation of fraternal life and of the identity of the Brother in the Church. If we take a look back, it is easy to discover that both educational and pedagogical work as well as missionary (there are still Spanish Brothers in other Provinces) and pastoral work left their mark on our vast Province, today, made up of the sector of Spain and two Delegations: one, Latin American (Ecuador and Colombia) and the other Asian (India), which knew how to incarnate in their cultural realities the religious and charismatic ideals of our origins, focusing their mission on Christian education, attention to families and evangelisation.

Finally, we would like to highlight the growing protagonism of the Laity in our life and mission, through their participation in the life of the Fraternities, in the management and animation bodies, and in the NGO Carumanda. This allowed the development of the Sa-Fa Family, a movement rooted in the very heart of our charism and a fundamental element of our hopeful outlook towards the future.



### HISTORY OF THE PROVINCE

**1909:** Foundation at La Horra (Bu). **1947:** Vice-Province. **1951:** Province Our Lady of the Assumption. **1966:** Foundation in Brasilia. **1974:** Foundation at Mocoa (Colombia. Closes and passes to Ecuador). **1976:** Foundation at Lago Agrio (Ecuador). **2003:** Foundation at Madurai (In). **2006:** Foundation at Bucaramanga (Co).

Brothers and Fraternities		Mission of the Sa-Fa Family			
Brothers	129	Schools in ES-EC-IN	7-3-3	Formation Houses: EC-CO-IN	2-1-3
Communities	19	Total students	11634	Houses ceded for social purposes	2
Brothers in another country	23	Lay teachers	1013	NGO Carumanda. Partners	800
Nazarene Fraternities	11	Volunteer catechists	225	Living houses, sports...	4
		Tutoring centres: IN-CO	5		

**BROTHERS OF THE HOLY FAMILY.**

**Rome, October 2021. N° 8**



# Networked Schools: Sa-Fa Family

The educational tradition of the Province has dated back to its foundation since 1909. At present, the Province offers the service of education in Spain, Ecuador and India in thirteen (13) Schools. Of these, ten (10) are its own; the others are managed by delegation of their owners.

From the beginning, we have also understood, following the guidelines of Brother Gabriel, that education is much more than mere instruction. From him, we inherited the main pedagogical traits, among others, the closeness to the pupil and to the family.

The involvement of the Laity in the works has been a great opportunity so that, being of different vocations, but sharing the same charism and mission, we can continue to educate in the "style of Nazareth".

The mission entrusted to us is no longer "only the mission of the Brothers". It is a "shared mission" and, to the extent that we participate in the same charism, it



Sa-Fa Ecuador

must become the "common mission" of the Brothers and of the Lay people, the only mission of the Church: evangelisation in all its breadth. At present, the Province opens up to new educational approaches to vocational formation. It is an urgency to which we must give a response based on our charism.

In this perspective, and in each country, the Province animates the educational work from a Team appointed by the Provincial Council: the Team of Titularity in Spain, the Titular Council in Ecuador, and the Education Commission in India. These Teams organise the academic and pastoral work, and the human and financial management. Each of these areas is animated by a provincial Team.

The objectives of the Team or Titular Council

are oriented towards the animation and the promotion of the evangelising activity of the Establishments, trying to contribute at all times to the unity, coherence and commitment of the whole Educational Community in the transformation of reality. These are the responsibilities of the Team of each country and those of the provincial Teams of the Pastoral care, Pedagogy and Management. These Teams, made up of educators from the different Establishments, meet every week.

To achieve these objectives, meetings or days of charismatic and pedagogical formation are organised in the Establishments themselves. On other occasions, these activities are organised for the educators from all the Establishments in order to promote networking within the Sa-Fa Family. A motto, common to the whole Province, constitutes a strong element of cohesion, which, every year, guides the formation and celebrations in all the Establishments. This year the motto is: "A new path".



Sa-Fa Bangalore

Motto. Course 21-22



Extended Council and Teams of Titularity



"Called to care for life, the environment and nature"



## With young people and families



Family Camp. Ecuador

The evangelising action of the Province culminates the pastoral action of its members. For some years now, we have been trying to make our Schools and Colleges true Centers of evangelisation.

A careful setting in the Establishments, a specific formation for the teachers, the accompaniment of the professors of religion and the catechists, gave as a result, over time, a network of evangelisation which is born of all, and which is intended to all the members of the Sa-Fa Family in Spain, Ecuador, Colombia and India.

This evangelising action is animated by a Pastoral Team in each country, which elaborates a common material

and organises joint actions. In turn, in each Centre, there is also a Team which, led by a Coordinator, animates the various pastoral activities. It is a pastoral work for and with the young people and families of the Establishments of the Sa-Fa Family.

In addition to pastoral work in the Schools, education in the faith is offered outside of school and on a voluntary basis. The work begins with the youngest children, with an initiation catechesis based on the sacraments, a real first evangelisation (in many cases) of children and families.

The process continues in this way: catechesis with children, adolescents and young people with the aim of reaching Christian maturity as adults, capable of living the faith in community. Throughout the process, the vocational dimension is not neglected.

The whole process has a group dimension. The activities have for mission, in addition to formation, to bring the participants to the life in group. That is why, there are frequent meetings between families and young people, meetings to share and grow in faith, camps, vocational meetings, meetings of shared life and celebrations to give thanks to God. The example and witness of the members of adult communities and Nazarene Fraternities are also very important, as they participate, encourage and accompany other pastoral groups.

In our Province, more than two hundred (200) catechists collaborate voluntarily, welcoming the "Free you have received, free give" (Mt 10, 8), and working to ensure that children and adults discover and live the message of the Gospel. It is a message of fraternal love, a gift from God which, in the Sa-Fa Family, we want to make it our evangelising action.

School for Catechists

Christian group camp. Valladolid





## In permanent mission

The first intention of the Brothers who arrived in Spain in 1908, was to awaken vocations to send Brothers to South America. We can say that this motivation has profoundly marked the life of the Province, since over the years, the missionary impulse has not ceased to manifest itself.

The first formandi left Spain to do their Novitiate in Italy and then, for the most part of them, until the middle of the 20th century, to be sent on mission to America. The number of those who remained in their homeland increased progressively.

The mission in Africa, which began in the late 1950s, also required the collaboration of several Spanish Brothers. From the 1960s onwards, some Brothers went to Brazil, and soon after, to the Andean countries (Colombia and Ecuador).

The beginning of the 21st century was marked by a new missionary impulse with the sending of Brothers to the Philippines, but above all to India, where an intense activity of promotion of vocations, and of formation developed and to which today, other activities of our mission are linked. Always in the same section, it is necessary to note the presence of Brothers of the Province in Indonesia. Finally, the foundation in Angola is a new call to missionary collaboration

### ID Y ENSEÑAD

Colaboración misionera de los Hermanos de la Sagrada Familia de España



H. Bernardino Molpeceres

Book published on the Centenary of the Province

## A Province present on three (3) Continents

Is the criterion of geographical proximity decisive for the reorganisation? The four Provinces of the Institute are present in at least two countries. The Province of Our Lady of the Assumption is present on three (3) continents and in 4 countries. Physical distance has its drawbacks, but these can be overcome.

Our standards have already implemented mechanisms to guarantee the meaning of the Province: a common Life Project, but adapted to each country and Community; a Province with two Delegations; a Provincial Delegate in each Delegation; a Provincial Council, but with an Advisory Council in the Delegations; an educational and pastoral mission managed as a network from a Team in each country; Houses of Formation in each country; the exchange of Brothers between



Pongal: harvest festival. India

### First profession in Colombia



countries to promote the life and mission of each sector; a Provincial Economy which provides what is necessary for each environment and which is focused on self-sufficiency.... It is probable that new modes of animation of the Institute could be tested and that other relationships could be fostered. With the current organisation or with another one that could be created in the future, the most important thing is to feel a member of the Institute. That is why, the Province has always favoured the collaboration with other Provinces, Delegations, or with the General Administration with the presence of several Brothers.

**"Called to walk together in a participatory style"**